

Subl
Cu }
a copper alloy containing from 0.1 to 2% by weight of Ag and from 1 to 10% by weight of Sn, the balance of the alloy consisting of Cu, is bonded to a backing metal, and has on its side opposite to the backing metal a roughened surface of approximately 0.5 to approximately 10 μm of roughness (R_z);

said roughened surface is coated with a coating layer comprising at least one thermo-setting resin, which is selected from the group consisting of polyimide resin, polyamide-imide resin, epoxy resin and phenol resin, and which contains from 55 to 95% by weight of MoS_2 , and wherein said roughened surface is formed of grooves extending in the sliding direction;

BA
cond
Ag and Sn are solid-dissolved in the Cu matrix of the copper alloy in at least the vicinity of said roughened surface where essentially no secondary phase of Ag or Sn is formed;

and, one of:

said Ag and Sn,

a hexagonal compound of Ag and Sn,

a hexagonal compound of Cu and Ag and Sn, or

a eutectic of Ag and Sn, or a eutectic of Cu and Ag and Sn;

is present in a higher concentration in a portion of a sub-layer of the alloy than in the alloy nearest said backing metal.

2. (Amended) A sliding bearing according to Claim 1, characterized in that said copper alloy further comprises 10% by weight or less of at least one additive element selected from the group consisting of Sb, In, Al, Mg and Cd; said Ag and Sn and said at least one additive element are solid-dissolved in the Cu matrix of the copper alloy in at least the vicinity of said roughened surface where

Sub
a
cont
B3
cont

~~essentially no secondary phase of Ag or Sn or said at least one additive element is formed; and
wherein said one of:~~

~~said Ag and Sn,~~

~~said hexagonal compound, or~~

~~said eutectic;~~

~~present in a higher concentration in a portion of the sub-layer further comprises said at least one
additive element.~~

Sub
F1
B3

11. (New) A sliding bearing according to claim 1, wherein said Ag and Sn, said hexagonal compound, or said eutectic is present in a portion of the sub-layer in a concentration that is at least 1.3 times higher than in the alloy nearest said backing metal.

12. (New) A sliding bearing according to claim 2, wherein said Ag and Sn and said at least one additive element, said hexagonal compound, or said eutectic is present in a portion of the sublayer in a concentration that is at least 1.3 times higher than in the alloy nearest said backing metal.

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-12 are pending in the present application. Claim 3 and 8 have been canceled. New Claims 11 and 12 have been added, which find support in the specification on page 10, lines 19-21.

Specification